

## Hughes Reparations Plan Up to Allies for Action

**Next Move on Proposal for Independent Commission Must Come From Premiers.**  
Speech Cabled Abroad

By Associated Press

Washington, Dec. 30.—(UPI)—A proposal by Secretary Hughes in his speech at New Haven last night that the Government's belief that an international commission of financiers, including Americans, might well be called in to recommend a method of settlement of the reparations crisis, apparently leaves the next constructive move in the hands of the allied Premiers.

The United States, however, is not a possible avenue leading to more formal negotiations regarding the commission proposal today when the State Department cables to American Ambassadors and Ministers abroad the full text of that portion of Mr. Hughes' address which deals with reparations and economic conditions.

This step will enable the American diplomatic representatives to act as a forceful spokesman for carrying the position of the United States when it makes it in order for the other Powers to express any opinion they may have on the subject.

The text of Mr. Hughes' discussion of economic problems follows, in part:

"The economic situation is a most important factor in the present European Conference. They have long received the urgent consideration of the Administration. It is idle to say we are not interested in these problems for we are deeply interested from our own standpoint, as well as from the standpoint of the rest of the American people, in those who are in distress. We cannot ignore these problems by calling them European, for they are world problems, and we cannot escape the fact that consequences in a failure to settle them.

### Europe Holds the Key

"They are, however, European problems in the sense that they cannot be solved without the cooperation of European countries. We must represent our shops—the key to the markets—in their localities, not in our country.

"The crisis of the European situation lies in the settlement of reparations. There will be no settlement of either type, however pressing until a definite and measured basis for discharge of obligations which has been fixed. It is the responsibility of each state to settle its own dispute with the foreigner to whom it belongs.

"How can the European States act in this matter? We propose two alternatives. We may, first, seek for the re-establishment of the system of armaments, or, secondly, for an armistice, for war is the best reason for war. In either case, the responsibility of the Allies for the expenses of the war is agreed, but there is no real cost sharing, as a result, there being the amounts paid by the victors, which have been paid, and the losses not been paid.

"But we are not seeking general reparations. We are seeking our own burden through our losses in Europe, part of Germany's war debts. No demands for any sum, but only of a proper settlement of the reparations question.

### No Bearing on Debts

"We propose, in the second place, that European Governments and ours have with respect to the debts. There has been a persistent attempt, ever since the armistice, to get us to accept our share of the responsibility for the debts.

"The time has come, however, in a manner similar to the former Armistice, and under the present Armistice, to settle the question of debts.

"For some time, and I am glad to find that the Foreign Office has been able to make up its mind, without consulting us, that the debts are to be met by the victors, and the debts of the losers are to be met by the losers. This is what we propose.

"The matter is now clear, and it is now time to act. The State of Germany to pay its debts, and the Allies to act independently of the debts. As far as us, we are in a position of responsibility, and would not be in a position to do anything but to support the German Government in its efforts to meet its debts.

**Congress Must Take Action**

"The American people are entitled to know what is to be done. They have a right to know that the Government is doing all it can to help the Allies, and that the Allies are doing all they can to help the losers.

"In this connection, I would like to call your attention to the fact that the broad task of the American people is to see that the Allies are not left to bear the brunt of the responsibility for the debts.

"We are not asking for a reduction of the debts, but we are asking for a reduction of the responsibility for the debts.

"This is the only way to meet the debts, unless Germany is to be compelled to pay them, unless the debts are to be met by the losers, and the losers are to be met by the losers.

"But the situation does call for a settlement upon the merits. The first condition of a satisfactory settlement is that the question should be taken out of politics. Statesmen have their difficult

ies that effect was contained in a cablegram recently received from the German Industrial Handicrafts, and the organization of German Industrial Engineers to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, whose officials have had the proposal for a commission under discussion with the State Department for several weeks.

Mr. Hughes said that the United States will not be represented at the Premiers' meeting next week were officially confirmed at the State Department.

No invitation for this Government to be represented either by an observer or otherwise has been received.

### Snyder Urges Tax on Manufacturing

Continued from Page One

ties, their public opinion, the exigencies with which they must face. It is devoutly to be hoped that they will effect a settlement among themselves and that the coming meeting at Paris will find a solution.

"But if it does not, what should be done? The alternative of such negotiations to obtain a settlement is not an attractive one. No one can foretell the exact consequences which might ensue from such a course. Apart from political results, I believe that the opinion of experts is that such measures will not produce repayment payments, but might tend to destroy the basis of those payments which must be found in economic recuperation."

### What Can Be Done?

"The European States cannot agree and such a settlement is favored, it can be done. It is not another way out. The fundamental condition is that the taxes entailed in the merits of the plan be borne by one, must be regarded.

Germany must now bind themselves in this case to present the recommendations of a commission at the earliest possible date, and the one who may be selected responsible for such a recommendation, his responsibility to forward the plan and from him duty to obey the law.

"If Germany will do this, they may invite an assembly of the Allies and, passing a resolution from the Assembly, authorizing a commission of economists and financial experts to submit a plan of reconstruction and taxation on manufacturing only."

"I have no doubt that distinguished Americans would be willing to serve on such a commission and to submit a report which, if it is agreed, they would be free to do so, may be of great value to the members of the commission.

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"The change for increased revenue from banks has already been brought to your attention.

"The tax on highways should also suggest that the motor license fees of the State be increased at least \$5 on each motor vehicle and light vehicles be imposed. In addition to the imposition of the tax on trucks, the State should provide that the county shall receive at least one-fourth to one-half of the tax, the county, of course, paying its proportionate share of the expense of the collection thereof."

### Ticks Injury Highways

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## CHILDREN MEET JOLLY UNCLE WIP

**Man Who Tells Bedtime Stories Gives Christmas Party to Youngsters**

### EACH RECEIVES A PRIZE

All the little boys and girls who have been sent to bed with Uncle Wip's bedtime stories over the radio every night had the time of their lives this afternoon when Uncle Wip gave his party at 3:30 P.M. at the restaurant of the Gimbel Store. Wip turned over for the entertainment, which began promptly at 3 o'clock.

There was a big Christmas tree, with Santa Claus in attendance to receive thanks for the good things he brought; also a Punch and Judy show, Robert Frazer, the blind boy singer, with them; and Peter Rabbit, Grandfather Frost, and others from Uncle Wip's stories came to life for the party. There was ice cream for everybody, and each child received a prize package. The two star children, Irene Clark and Norman Grieff, received their prizes for perfect attendance through the mail.

### TONIGHT'S RADIO PROGRAMS

PHILADELPHIA STATION (WWD)  
Gimbel Brothers' Leader  
SAVANNAH (WBZ) 10:30 P.M.  
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ST. LOUIS (WBZ) 10:30 P.M.  
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ST. PAUL (WBZ) 10:30 P.M.  
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